

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

10 December 1956

Subject: Report of Unidentified Flying Object

1. During the observation [redacted] 8 December 1956, a red flare was sighted high in the eastern sky. This flare was a spot of reddish light with short tails of the same color protruding from each side of the spot to the south. 25X1
2. The flare appeared to be at 15,000 to 20,000 feet. Its track, at first sighting [redacted] was estimated to be some 10 - 12 miles out to sea from the writer's position [redacted] and its course was due north. Speed was estimated to be 750-1000 miles per hour. 25X1
3. The missile altitude at about T plus 95 seconds appeared to be the same as the altitude of the flare. [redacted] 25X1
5. Upon completion of the turn, the flare picked up a heading of 90 - 100 degrees and maintained this heading until out of sight of the writer at T plus 330 seconds.
6. As far as could be determined, the flare track did not vary in speed or altitude during the entire sighting.
7. On making the turn to the east, the two tails disappeared. Whether this was due to change in attitude with relation to the observer, or due to increased distance from the observer, or due to a change in "power settings" (sic) is undecided.
8. Weather conditions were: ceiling and visibility unlimited.
9. Attention is called to a similar sighting described to the writer [redacted] saw a flare with a similar flight path the night of the ill-fated Jupiter Launch. 25X1

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